

# TEXAS BRINE COMPANY, LLC

4800 SAN FELIPE  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77056

THEODORE M. GRABOWSKI  
PRESIDENT

August 17, 2012

Dear Neighbor:

On behalf of Texas Brine Company, I am pleased to provide this assistance to you in connection with the inconvenience and cost that you may have recently experienced as a result of the recent sinkhole formation on our property in Grand Bayou.

As I'm sure you've heard, Texas Brine Company does not and has never stored or processed natural gas in Grand Bayou. In fact, we have no storage operations at Grand Bayou and simply produce brine for sale to other customers. Like you, we don't yet understand where this natural gas comes from or how it could have migrated onto our property. Even though we don't have a connection with natural gas, we believe it is responsible for us to work hard with our local and state agencies to try to understand where this gas comes from and what we can do to assist in its remedy.

We are pleased that all testing to date has shown no risk to human health associated with the sinkhole. We continue to work with the State to assess and clean-up the site and we have been able to safely contain and periodically remove the small amount of diesel-like material. Although it's too early to tell for sure, we continue to believe that the natural gas that was bubbling up in Bayou Corne migrated onto our property and caused this sinkhole formation.

In the meantime, we are conducting geological tests to determine what caused the bubbling and sinkhole. These efforts include drilling a new observation well into one of our brine caverns in order to conduct testing within the cavity and surrounding area. You may have already seen the large number of tractor trailers moving the rig components into place. Please accept my apologies for any inconvenience this extra traffic may cause, but we want to complete the well as soon as possible. As is true with any well drilling, I would expect higher than normal noise levels occasionally since we will also work around the clock.

Once again, I hope this financial assistance will help you and your family. Please rest assured that Texas Brine Company will continue to work with our local and state officials to understand what caused these issues to occur. If you would like additional updates on our efforts, please visit our website at <http://www.texasbrine.com/response> where we will post daily updates of our response activities.

Sincerely,

Ted



## **Texas Brine Company, LLC**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 16, 2012

Contact:

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### **Assistance for Bayou Corne Area Residents to be available Friday** ***Firm selected to handle aid to those affected by evacuation order***

BAYOU CORNE, La. – Residents affected by the August 4 evacuation order resulting from the discovery of a sinkhole in northern Assumption Parish will begin receiving financial assistance beginning Friday, August 17.

Texas Brine Company, LLC, of Houston, has chosen Worley Catastrophe Response to coordinate and manage a housing assistance fund for residents living around the Bayou Corne community in the area under a mandatory evacuation order issued by Assumption Parish officials. Worley will operate out of the Assumption Parish Sheriff's Office substation located at 4024 Hwy. 70 South in Pierre Part. A Worley employee will be on site once a week, or as needed, beginning Friday at 10:30 a.m.

Beginning August, 17, the fund will be used to provide weekly housing assistance to those who live in the affected area. A check in the amount of \$875 per week will be issued to a representative of each household in the affected area who submits a Louisiana driver's license or other reasonably acceptable photo identification confirming residence in the evacuation zone. Those residences are listed in documentation provided by parish officials.

Assistance checks will issued by a Worley representative at the sheriff's substation on a weekly basis. Texas Brine has instructed Worley to consult with representatives of any household whose residents believe that special circumstances might warrant additional assistance. Each of those requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Local, state and federal officials studying the sinkhole have not yet determined fault in the incident. Texas Brine has operations adjacent to the sinkhole, south of La. 70 South in Assumption Parish. The company is working closely with government officials to help determine the cause of the sinkhole.

Because of its proximity to the sinkhole, Texas Brine has taken the lead in providing aid to residents in the community neighboring their facility and hired Worley to administer the program, known as the Bayou Corne Incident Evacuee Fund.

*About Texas Brine Company, LLC:*


Texas Brine Company, LLC, is the largest independent brine producer in the United States, supplying over 30 percent of the brine requirements of the chlor-alkali industry. More information is available at <http://www.texasbrine.com>.

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**Bayou Corne Incident 2012**

Please click below to access the latest information about Texas Brine's response to the Bayou Corne incident.

[Bayou Corne Incident 2012 Response Site](#)



RESPONSIBLE CARE®  
OUR COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY

*Texas Brine Company provides extensive safety training and is committed to providing a safe working environment for its employees. As a member of the [American Chemistry Council](#) the company emphasizes community involvement and awareness through the Responsible Care program.*

Welcome to Texas Brine Company, LLC

Brine is water, fully saturated with sodium chloride - common table salt - and is the sole raw material used in the manufacture of chlorine and caustic soda (chloralkali). The production of brine in industrial quantities to meet the needs of U.S. industries requires a substantial investment of capital and expertise, and Texas Brine is a leader in this field.

The chloralkali industry is a key component of U.S. industrial capability. The co-products - caustic soda and chlorine - are used in a variety of products including water purification, paper, plastics, pharmaceuticals, and organic and inorganic chemicals.

*Texas Brine is dedicated to excellence in all aspects of brine production, treatment and transport, and in the underground storage of gas and liquid. As a result our customers enjoy unparalleled quality, reliability and efficiency in brine and storage services.*



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The Company


Texas Brine Company, LLC is the largest independent brine producer in the United States, supplying over 30 percent of the brine requirements of the chlor-alkali industry.

Our Commitment to Responsible Care

Through the Responsible Care initiative and the Responsible Care Global Charter our industry has made a worldwide commitment to improve our environmental, health, safety and security performance. Accordingly, we believe and subscribe to the guiding principles as stated in our [TBC Environmental, Health, Safety & Security Policy](#).

Industry Pioneer

Texas Brine is a family-owned business based in Houston, with a proud heritage in salt-related businesses since 1926. Texas Brine pioneered the commercial production of brine through solution mining in Texas salt domes, developing its first well in 1946, and co-founded the [Solution Mining Research Institute](#) to promote understanding and expertise in the evolving field.



Customer Focus

The cornerstone of Texas Brine is customer commitment - from operating customer-owned assets to developing and owning greenfield sites dedicated to a customer's plant.

As an independent company, we always keep our focus on the needs of our customers. With an emphasis on quick response and empowered knowledgeable employees, we are proud to claim that no customer plant has ever been shut down due to lack of brine supply or quality. With this caliber of commitment and service, it is no surprise that Texas Brine has customer relationships that span half a century.

<http://www.texasbrine.com/company.html>[8/22/2012 8:59:03 AM]